

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 181854
ORIGIN EUR-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:EUR/RPM:EREHFELD

APPROVED BY:EUR/RPM:EREHFELD

-----086967 190918Z /16

R 182337Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS 0000

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FOR USOECD

FOLLOWING REPEAT USNATO 6789 ACTION SECSTATE DATED JULY 11, 1978.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USNATO 06789

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, AORG

SUBJ: COORDINATED COMMITTEE OF GOVERNMENT BUDGET EXPERTS
(CCG)

REF: USNATO 6656, PARA 5

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1. PARA 4 TRANSMITS THE TEXT OF THE LETTER ON THE CCG
CIRCULATED BY SYG LUNS DURING THE PERMREPS' LUNCHEON OF
JULY 4. IN THE LETTER SYG LUNS HAS FINALLY PUT IN
WRITING HIS OPPOSITION TO THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE CCG.
AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, HE NEVER TABLED BEFORE THE
NAC THE 130TH REPORT (CCG(76)4) OF MARCH 16, 1976,
RECOMMENDING ADMISSION OF THE WEATHER CENTER TO THE CCG;
OTHER COUNCILS REFUSED TO TABLE THE REPORT UNTIL THE
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NATO COUNCIL HAD APPROVED IT.

2. SYG LUNS PRESENTS TWO ALTERNATIVES, EITHER
(1) NO INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS NOW
IN THE CCG, OR (2) IF INCREASED, NATO SHOULD WITHDRAW
FROM THE CCG. WE SEE THIS AS A MANEUVER ON HIS PART TO
FIND A CHANCE TO LINK NATO MORE CLOSELY WITH THE

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, IN VIEW OF THEIR COLLOCATION IN BRUSSELS. BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, IN VIEW OF THE LONG DELAYS CAUSED BY THE NEED TO COORDINATE AMONG THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP, LUNS' LOGIC IS HARD TO DISPUTE EVEN WHEN THE SECSGEN THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN GUILTY OF PARTICIPATING IN DELAYING TACTICS WITH THE CCG. FACED WITH FIRM NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE CCG, ALBEIT COMBINED WITH RECOGNITION BY THE NATIONS OF THE NEED FOR CERTAIN REFORMS FROM WITHIN, THE SECSGEN HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO QUARRELING AMONG THEMSELVES AS TO HOW BEST TO PROCEED TO REGAIN FLEXIBILITY AGAINST A UNITED FRONT OF NATIONS. THE LUNS ALTERNATIVE MAY BE THE METHOD WHICH BEST SUITS THE NATO ENVIRONMENT GIVEN LUNS' NATURAL BENT TOWARD CLOSER COOPERATION WITH THE EC. WE WILL FIND IT HARD TO DISPUTE SYG LUNS' ARGUMENTS. HOWEVER, AT LEAST ONE DELEGATION HERE (FRANCE) ALREADY SEES THE ADVANTAGE OF COST SHARING DERIVED FROM A CCG WITH A LARGER MEMBERSHIP. WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD SUPPORT LUNS AGAINST WIDENING MEMBERSHIP AT LEAST UNTIL A MAJORITY OF ALLIES APPEAR TO OPPOSE HIM. IN ANY EVENT, WE SHOULD, IN OUR VIEW, PROMPTLY BLOCK ANY CONSIDERATION OF WITHDRAWAL.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE, PARTICULARLY SHOULD A CLOSER EC-NATO LINK AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE CCG BE FORESEEN IN THE LONG TERM.

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4.
BEGIN TEXT:

I WROTE TO YOU IN DECEMBER 1976 REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MEDIUM RANGE WEATHER FORECASTS TO BECOME A FULL MEMBER OF THE CO-ORDINATED ORGANISATIONS.

SINCE THAT TIME, ANOTHER ORGANISATION - THE EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE - HAS ALSO FORMALLY REQUESTED AFFILIATION TO CO-ORDINATION. I UNDERSTAND THAT WE CAN EXPECT YET A FURTHER APPLICATION FROM THE EUROPEAN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY LABORATORY AND POSSIBLY ALSO FROM THE OSLO AND PARIS COMMISSIONS.

I WANT TO BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION MY MISGIVINGS OVER THIS SITUATION.

I UNDERSTAND FULLY THAT GOVERNMENTS SEE THE EXTENSION OF CO-ORDINATION AS THE MOST EXPEDITIOUS WAY TO DEAL WITH SALARY CONDITIONS OF THE GREATEST NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS. BUT AGAINST THIS APPARENT

ADVANTAGE MUST BE WEIGHED A NUMBER OF OTHER CONSIDERATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE OF CONCERN TO ALL OF US BUT WHICH I FEAR ARE BEING OVERLOOKED.

NATO IS A POLITICAL AND MILITARY ORGANISATION. IT HAS OTHER NEEDS THAN THOSE OF ORGANISATIONS WHOSE MISSION IS TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC, AND LITTLE IN COMMON WITH THEM IN SIZE, STRUCTURE, RECRUITMENT REQUIREMENTS AND, INDEED, NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE STATUS OF STAFF REPRESENTATION AND THE ROLE WHICH THE STAFF PLAY IN CERTAIN OF THESE BODIES IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THAT WHICH HAS SO FAR BEEN CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE WITHIN NATO; IN SOME INSTANCES IT CAN BE SAID TO APPROACH CO-MANAGEMENT WITH ALL THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOES WITH IT.

THERE IS ALSO THE QUESTION OF THE MACHINERY OF CO-ORDINATION, WHICH WE DISCUSSED LAST NOVEMBER. I SHOULD LIKE HERE TO CLEAR UP WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE A MISUNDERSTANDING. IN CALLING ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR A REVIEW OF CO-ORDINATION MACHINERY I AM NOT TALKING ONLY OF THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE; IT IS THE WHOLE STRUCTURE OF CO-ORDINATION, THE EXTREMELY TIME- AND MONEY-CONSUMING PROCESS OF MEETINGS AND CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN ADMINISTRATIONS, BETWEEN STAFF ASSOCIATIONS, AND BETWEEN ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF ASSOCIATIONS WHICH CO-ORDINATION NECESSITATES, AS WELL AS THE RELATIONSHIP OF ALL THESE WITH THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND WITH COUNCILS, WHICH REQUIRE FUNDAMENTAL AND OBJECTIVE REAPPRAISAL.

THIS PONDEROUS PROCESS TAKES AN INORDINATE AMOUNT OF THE TIME OF THE PEOPLE INVOLVED, WHO ARE THUS UNABLE TO DEVOTE THEMSELVES AS THEY SHOULD BE DOING TO THEIR TRUE FUNCTIONS. IT ALSO RESULTS IN INCREASING PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS BETWEEN NATO STAFF AND OTHER STAFFS WHO MAY NOT FULLY SUPPORT OR WHO MAY EVEN BE INIMICAL TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ALLIANCE. I CANNOT FEEL THAT THIS IS PRUDENT.

THE MORE ORGANISATIONS THAT ARE ADDED TO THE CONSULTATION PROCEDURES, PARTICULARLY ORGANISATIONS WITH QUITE OTHER FUNCTIONS AND NEEDS, THE MORE ONEROUS THESE PROCEDURES WILL BECOME AND THE MORE THOSE CONTACTS WILL INCREASE. THE COST, BOTH IN MONEY AND IN TIME WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE BE AVAILABLE FOR PRODUCTIVE WORK, WILL BE GREATLY AGGRAVATED AND THE DELAYS SO LENGTHENED AS TO BRING MATTERS TO BREAKING POINT.

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I THEREFORE URGE YOU, FIRST, TO ACCEPT THAT WHILE NOTHING PREVENTS THE APPLICATION OF THE CO-ORDINATED SALARY SCALES BY SUCH OTHER ORGANISATIONS AS WISH TO USE THEM OR THE FULL EXCHANGE OF RELEVANT STATISTICAL MATERIAL, ADDITIONAL ORGANISATIONS CANNOT, AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT, BE ACCEPTED AS MEMBERS OF THE CO-ORDINATED ORGANISATIONS. SECONDLY, TO RECOGNISE THAT THERE MUST BE AS A MATTER OF URGENCY A REVIEW OF THE WHOLE CO-ORDINATION PROCEDURE.

IF THIS PROPOSITION IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, I MUST STATE MY CONVICTION THAT IN SPITE OF THE ADVANTAGES THAT CO-ORDINATION HAS HAD AND COULD CONTINUE TO HAVE, NATO SHOULD ITSELF CEASE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CO-ORDINATED ORGANIZATIONS.

END TEXT. WISON UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE181854
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/RPM:EREHFELD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780296-0077
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780746/aaaabmkl.tel
Line Count: 193
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ca135171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USNATO 6656, 78 PARAMARIBO 5
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1964526
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COORDINATED COMMITTEE OF GOVERNMENT BUDGET EXPERTS (CCG)
TAGS: AORG, NATO
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ca135171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014